

CODE ORDINANCE

Sponsored by: Mayor DeVries

Introduced: 07/18/23

Public Hearing: 08/01/23

Amended: 08/01/23

Adopted: 08/01/23

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
ORDINANCE SERIAL NO. 23-072**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH ASSEMBLY AMENDING
PORTIONS OF TITLE 25, ELECTIONS.

BE IT ENACTED:

Section 1. Classification. This ordinance is of a general and permanent nature and shall become a part of the Borough Code.

Section 2. Amendment of section. MSB 25.15.015(B)(1) is hereby amended to read as follows:

(B) A declaration of candidacy shall state the following:

(1) the full legal name of the candidate, and if different, the manner in which [HE/SHE] the candidate wishes [HIS/HER] their name to appear on the ballot. A substitute first name shall be limited to a familiar form of the candidate's name or initial. Should a candidate choose to use a nickname, their legal name will appear on the ballot along with the nickname and the candidate will follow the guidelines in paragraph (a) below. [NICKNAMES,] Honorary or assumed titles and the like are not allowed.

(a) Candidates who would like their nicknames to appear on the ballot will have five registered voters of the Borough verify that the candidate is known by that nickname. The nickname will be less than 15 characters. The form that is to be used will be provided by the Clerk.

Section 3. Amendment of section. MSB 25.30.020 is hereby amended as follows:

(A) During the hours the polls are open, no person who is in the polling place or within 200 feet of any entrance of the polling place may attempt to persuade a person to vote for or against a candidate, proposition, or question. [, NOR MAY ANY PERSON CONDUCT OTHER POLITICAL ACTIVITIES THAT MAY PERTAIN TO ANY FUTURE ELECTION OR POTENTIAL BALLOT PROPOSITION.] For the purposes of this section, the entrance to a polling place is any entrance to the building. The election board shall post warning notices in the form and manner prescribed by the clerk.

(B) Any literature that a candidate, group or person intends to distribute at a polling place or within 200 feet of any entrance of a polling place shall have the literature reviewed and approved for distribution by the clerk 30 calendar days prior to a regular or special election.

(C) No partisan or nonpartisan political activity, or any other activity which, in the judgment of the Clerk, may directly or indirectly interfere with the orderly conduct of the election, shall be permitted in, on, or within 200 feet of any entrance to the building used as a polling or vote counting place. "Political activity" in this section includes without limitation, any activity intended to persuade a person to vote for or against any candidate or measure or to desist from voting.

Section 4. Amendment of section. MSB 25.35.081 is hereby amended to read as follows:

(A) The early ballots shall be delivered to the [REVIEW BOARD] election officials assigned by the clerk for hand counting in accordance with the provisions of this chapter. Counting early ballots will begin promptly after 8 p.m. on election day.

Section 5. Amendment of section. MSB 25.35.107(A) is hereby amended to read as follows:

(A) Upon conclusion of canvassing, [A REVIEW BOARD] **election officials** shall hand count all valid ballots in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.

Section 3. Effective date. This ordinance shall take effect upon adoption.

ADOPTED by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly this 1 day of August, 2023.


EDNA DeVRIES, Borough Mayor

ATTEST:


JONNIE R. McKECHNIE, CMC, Borough Clerk
(SEAL)

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: Nowers, McKee, Yundt, Tew, Fonov, and Bernier